

## CLAIMS

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A retainer device, for a press punch, capable of selectively changing the amount of projection of said punch whereby the amount of projection of said punch is increased 5 when said punch is used for pressworking and, conversely, the amount of projection of said punch is decreased when said punch is not used for pressworking, the retainer device comprising:

a punch holding body for holding said punch,

10 a retainer block for movably supporting said punch holding body so that said punch holding body is allowed to freely move between a use position of increasing the amount of projection of said punch and a non-use position of decreasing the amount of projection of said punch, and

a cam which is so activated as to be drawn backward and forward,

wherein:

15 a pin is projectingly formed in either one of said cam and said punch holding body, and

either a guide groove or a guide slotted aperture for the guiding of said pin is formed in the other of said cam and said punch holding body whereby said punch holding body moves to said use position when said cam executes either one of forward movement and 20 backward movement and, conversely, said punch holding body moves to said non-use position when said cam executes the other movement.

2. The press-punch retainer device of claim 1 further comprises biasing means operable to bias said punch holding body to said non-use position of decreasing the amount of projection of said punch.